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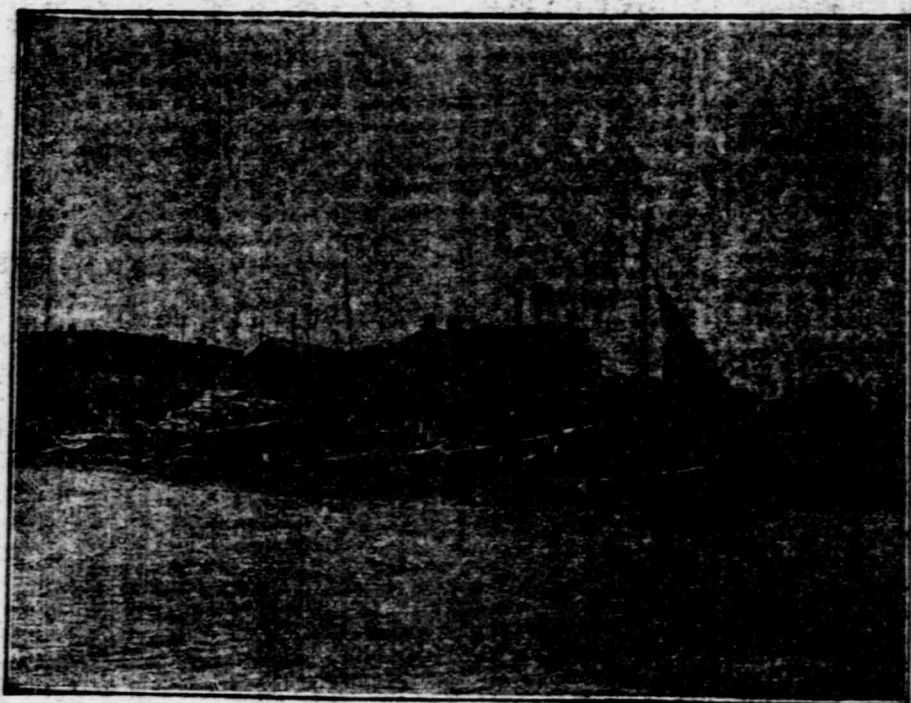
114 S. PALAFOX STREET.

## The Succulent Oyster of the Florida Coast

By  
**B. H. Thomas.**

During the months when the "R" is missing lovers of oysters are, perforce, compelled to satisfy their craving for the succulent bivalve with the canned product; and nowhere does the canned article reach greater perfection than on the Gulf coast of Florida. While much has been written of the canneries at Biloxi and other points to the westward of Pensacola, but little notice has been given the large establishments at Apalachicola which annually ship thousands of cases of canned oysters as well as thousands of gallons of "counts" and "selects" to the markets of the south, a large part of the product being disposed of in Atlanta and Columbus, Ga., Jacksonville, Fla., and other of the larger cities of these and adjoining states.

The oyster is to Apalachicola what the orange and pineapple are to localities further south, and, in the shallows of that broad expanse of water which takes its name from the ancient but thriving little city at the mouth of the Apalachicola river, the oyster grows to perfection. An immense "mosquito fleet" is constantly employed to harvest the crop during the months from September to May, nearly all of which is sold to the canneries and by them distributed to the trade either in the shell, by the gallon or count, or in cans. Immense piles of oyster shells, almost reaching the dignity of small mountains, are to be seen on every hand, and notwithstanding the fact that load after load are carted away to make the beautiful



VESSELS OF THE "MOSQUITO FLEET" UNLOADING OYSTERS AT WHARF OF BAY CITY PACKING CO.

shell roads for which Apalachicola is famous, the piles seem to increase rather than diminish.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Jos. Messina, who operates one of the largest oyster packing plants at Apalachicola, the writer was enabled to witness the process in detail, from the time Mr. Oyster reaches the dock at the rear of the establishment until he is safely sealed up in a can, together with numerous of his fellows, ready to tickle the palate of the epicure.

The oyster boats land at a dock in the rear of the cannery and the oysters are transferred into graded iron trucks, each holding about three bushels. The trucks are then rolled into a steam chamber where the heat forces the shell open, allowing a large proportion of the juice to escape. The car is then run over to a track on each side of which stand numerous females of the colored persuasion who attack the oysters with openers. The oysters are taken from the shell and placed in gallon measures and when the measures are full they are taken to a "washer," who weighs them, giving the "opener" a check, which is cashed at the close of the day.

The juice is carefully strained off and the oysters put through several baths of pure artesian water to cleanse them of impurities. The strained juice is sterilized, and then the juice and oysters are passed along to a number of colored women by whom the cans are filled. Two grades of canned oysters are made in this establishment, the larger oysters being sorted out and canned separately, commanding a higher price on the market than the medium size or small ones.

The "fillers" place the oysters in sterilized cans, after which they are immersed in a tank of boiling water where they remain until thoroughly cooked. The water being poured from the cans, the heated juice is poured in, the tops placed in position and soldered fast. The operation is extremely simple throughout and requires, but a few minutes from the time the bivalves are landed until they are ready for the market.

The finest oysters are taken from the racks before they are placed in the steam chest and passed along to skilled openers (shuckers, they are called) by whom they are opened, afterwards being sold by the hundred or gallon, according to size. The "shuckers" are well paid, averaging from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per day, each employee being paid off when the day's work is done.

Nearly all of the employees are colored and as a rule, they cannot stand prosperity. As soon as they get their fingers upon a dollar it burns until it can be disposed of, and, in almost every instance, the Negro who receives his pay at night turns up in the morn-

ing "broke." The oyster industry annually brings thousands of dollars to Apalachicola, and, as it goes into the hands of those who immediately put it in circulation, it adds greatly to the general prosperity of that beautiful city.

## Picture to Yourself

\* A hot Sunday—mercury registering about 90 in the shade. Nothing to do—no place to go—no inclination for anything except to

## Take Life Easy

\* Then picture a nice, big, clean refrigerator filled with good, clean, pure ice, and all round this ice bottles of

## Red Heart Beer

\* ice cold, and just as inviting as anything can be—that is Life.

## Lewis Bear Co. Agents.

## WANT BACK THEIR DEAD

**Seminole Consult With Lawyers to Secure Return of Body.**

## VERY MUCH EXERCISED

CHIEF TOMMY TIGER STRONG IN

DENUNCIATION OF "BAD WHITE MAN" WHO TOOK INDIAN'S BODY FROM ITS RESTING PLACE.

On the 23d inst., the Metropolis told of the finding of an Indian corpse by one H. N. Neal, of West Palm Beach, in the Everglades and of his having taken the body north for exhibition purposes. The story was taken from the Times-Union and it dwelt at length on the finding of the body, its condition, and what Mr. Neal proposed to do with it, says the Miami Metropolis. To-day Tommy Tiger, a sort of leader among the Indians, accompanied by six or eight other Seminoles, is in the city for the purpose of consulting with lawyers relative to having the body brought back to its home and the punishment of Mr. Neal for taking and removing it. The Indians were very much exercised over the affair and before seeking legal advice, called upon several old settlers, with whom they are very friendly, for instructions. In each case they were given encouragement in their efforts to have the corpse brought back and the man who took it away punished.

Tommy Tiger, who speaks English sufficiently to be understood, was strong in his denunciation of the "bad white man" and was bent on seeing County Judge Heyser to have him arrested. Tommy said that the dead Indian who had been carried away was named Dr. Wilson and has been a medicine man. Further than this he would give no information. The other Indians were very grim and silent, though their eyes sparkled with fire when Tommy was talking about the crime that had been committed against one of their dead. The result of their legal investigations could not be ascertained this afternoon.

The majority of the people believe that the Indians are right; that a person has no more right to take and remove one of their dead than they would the body of a white person, and some have even volunteered, it is understood, to assist them in getting back the body of Dr. Wilson and punishing the one who took it away.

If the Indians persist in pushing the matter it is possible that one of the most interesting cases ever coming before the courts and the public will result.

## CURES OLD SORES.

Westmoreland, Kans., May 5, 1902. Ballard Snow Liniment Co.: Your Snow Liniment cured an old sore on the side of my chin that was supposed to be a cancer. The sore was stubborn and would not yield to treatment, until I tried Snow Liniment, which did the work in short order. My sister, Mrs. Sophia J. Carson, Allensville, Mich. Co., Pa., has a sore and mistrusts it is a cancer. Please send her a 50c bottle. Sold by all druggists.

DON'T STAY AWAY FROM THE POLL JUST BECAUSE YOU CANNOT SWIM. BLISS OR SHINE—BUT GO AND VOTE FOR RIX M. ROBINSON.

Political Adv.

## REMOVAL NOTICE.

J. Mendal, the tailor, has removed from 28 E. Government St. to 9 E. Intendencia St., where he will be associated with M. Seitz, under the firm name of Mendal & Seitz, tailors and drapers. June 1.

## Dagger Money.

In former times when traveling was not so safe as in the twentieth century the judges often needed an escort when passing from one town to another on circuit. In the duty of Newcastle to provide such protection for the journey between that town and Carlisle, as time went on the actual provision of a guard was replaced by the payment of money for the purpose, and it was this contribution that became known as "dagger money." To this day the old custom is kept up, and at the Newcastle assizes the judge receives from the mayor a coin that is probably itself a curiosity and also serves as an interesting souvenir of this strange survival.—London Mail.

## Spiders' Sight.

Experiments have been made to decide how far spiders can see and it has been determined that they have a range of vision of at least a foot. It is not always possible to tell, however, whether the lower animals perceive by sight or hearing or by the action of air in motion has upon their bodies. Experiments tend to show that mice are sensitive to motions of the air which to human ears create no sound whatever.

## Hard to Handle.

Citizen—What'll you charge me, Uncle Rastus, to cart away that pile of stone? Uncle Rastus—Bout two dollars, sah. Citizen—Isn't that very high? Uncle Rastus—Yes, sah, jes' for cartin' away de stone, but I gotter hire a man to help harness de mule.—Pittsburg Press.

The

# Union Central

Leads All

Life Insurance Companies

in

Dividend Earnings.

**BECAUSE** It has, and has had for many years, the highest interest rate of any company.

**BECAUSE** It has, and has had for many years, a very low death rate.

**BECAUSE** The management of the **Union Central** is thoroughly sagacious, enterprising and careful.

AN ANNUAL DIVIDEND POLICY IS THE ONLY CONTRAGT WHICH GIVES YOU THE FULL BENEFITS.

# B. S. Williams,

General Agent,

Pensacola, Florida.

304 Thiesen Building.

## DUESSELDORFER BEER

THIS only perfect stimulant is one which makes no reprisals on the system—one which refreshes the fatigued muscles and the wearied mind without demanding payment from the nerves. Whiskey, wine, coffee and tea are reactionary. **DUESSELDORFER BEER** is nutritious, strengthening and wholesome. It supplies the tissue that the others destroy. Millions of workmen drink it to renew the strength that their labors consume. But for every drink of the other four, your body pays the penalty.

Duesseldorf is the World's Standard of Perfection

Unanimously awarded Grand Prize by Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904, and Paris, 1900.

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Indanopolis Brewing Co.  
 BREWERS & BOTTLERS  
 INDIANAPOLIS, IND.



## SANZOL

LOTION AND SOAP. POSITIVE CURE FOR ALL SKIN DISEASES.

The wonderful discovery of the famous specialist in skin diseases, J. Fulton, M. D., Brooklyn, N. Y. Sanzol treatment is entirely new.

## SUFFERERS FROM

Eczema, Lupus, Herpes, Ringworm, Prurigo, Scrofuloderma, Skin Cancer, Pediculosis, Psoriasis, Ecthyma, Erysipelas, Syphilis, and all other forms of skin disease find immediate relief in Sanzol. It removes pimples and blackheads, cures sweaty or itching feet, and cures all skin diseases.

Some of the now famous cures by Sanzol treatment were reported by a subscriber in the New York World of March 9 and the Brooklyn Daily Eagle of March 25, 1904.

August Newman of Enfield, Conn., near Graves Place, Brooklyn, writes that he had been a sufferer from skin eruption for eight years called by different names by different physicians. He was induced, in sheer desperation, to try Sanzol. He enjoyed unbroken sleep after the first use of Sanzol. His reward for a scientific treatment of this disease for two months was a complete cure.

## THE SOAP

has no equal. Its daily use with lotion will give your face and hands perfect skin, restoring the defective respiratory conditions of your skin to its normal health, producing the freshness of youth and a glow of health and beauty. Try it.

Those afflicted with itchy and skin diseases suffer most during the weather. Avoid this by the use of Sanzol. Write for testimonials and full particulars of Sanzol treatment (free of charge). Treatment requires only a few applications of lotion and soap. See on receipt of price or at druggists. Lotion, half pint, \$1.00; Soap, per cake or jar (3 cakes, 65c).

Address Sanzol Laboratory, dept. 14 100-102 Eton St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

"THE BEST MAN OF THE LOT." VOTE FOR RIX M. ROBINSON FOR MAYOR. Political Adv.

Read The Journal's Want Columns.